

Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT DUBLIN 470 ACTION SECSTATE INFO
ANKARA BERN BONN BRUSSELS EC BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN THE HAGUE
LONDON LUXEMBOURG OTTAWA STOCKHOLM ROME TOKYO VIENNA
OSLO WELLINGTON NATO MADRID OECD PARIS DTD 12 MAR

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 470

LIMDIS

PASS SECSTATE PARTY

ALSO FOR EUR/RPE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OECD, EI

SUBJECT: PROPOSED IEA MINISTERIAL MEETING, OECD MINISTERIAL
MEETING

REFERENCE STATE 53940

1. DUE TO EC SUMMIT MEETING IN DUBLIN MARCH 10/11 WE WERE UNABLE
TO CALL ON EAMONN GALLAGHER, DEPUTY SECRETARY OF IRISH DEPARTMENT
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OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, UNTIL MORNING OF MARCH 12 TO DISCUSS REFTEL.

HOWEVER, WE HAD BEEN ABLE PASS ORAL MESSAGE TO GOI DURING DUBLIN SUMMIT MARCH 11.

2. GALLAGHER TOLD US THAT HE HAD ON MARCH 11 AGAIN DISCUSSED WITH FOREIGN MINISTER FITZGERALD QUESTION OF IEA MEETING AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL. FITZGERALD HAD DISCUSSED THE PROPOSED MEETING WITH HIS EC FOREIGN MINISTER COLLEAGUES DURING THE DUBLIN SUMMIT MEETING AND THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTION REPRESENTS OPINION OF THE AFFECTED FOREIGN MINISTERS. THEIR CONSENSUS WAS THAT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO HOLD THE DUBLIN MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS ON MAY 26. THE IEA MINISTERIAL MEETING COULD THEN TAKE PLACE ON MAY 27 (INSTEAD OF MAY 26) AND COULD BE FOLLOWED IMMEDIATELY BY THE OECD MINISTERIAL ON MAY 28 AND 29 (RATHER THAN MAY 27-28). GALLAGHER NOTED THAT NATO COUNCIL MEETS ON MAY 29, BUT HE SUGGESTED THAT THIS WOULD NOT CONFLICT WITH OECD MINISTERIAL INASMUCH AS MOST OF IMPORTANT BUSINESS WOULD TAKE PLACE ON FIRST DAY, I.E. MAY 28 AND WOULD NOT REQUIRE MINISTERIAL ATTENDANCE ON THE SECOND DAY.

3. GALLAGHER SAID THAT EC FOREIGN MINISTERS BELIEVED THIS WOULD BE THE BEST WAY OF MEETING ALL DEMANDS. EC MINISTERS COULD START IN DUBLIN ON MAY 26 AND THEN FLY ON TO PARIS THAT SAME EVENING TO MAKE IEA AND OECD MEETINGS. ANY OTHER SOLUTION WOULD REQUIRE MINISTERS MEET IN PARIS ON EDAY, TRAVEL TO DUBLIN THE NEXT, AND RETURN TO PARIS THE THIRD DAY.

4. GALLAGHER NOTED THAT THERE WOULD BE AN OECD MEETING ON MARCH 13. HE SUGGESTED THAT IF USG WERE AGREEABLE TO REVISED SCHEDULE OUTLINED ABOVE, FORMAL PROPOSAL COULD BE PUT TO OECD AND DECISION COULD BE TAKEN ON NEW DATES (MAY 28-29) FOR OECD MINISTERIAL. WE UNDERTOOK TO CONVEY IRISH SUGGESTION TO DEPARTMENT AND TO REPORT BACK AS SOO AS POSSIBLE. ON THE IEA MEETING, THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEET NEXT WEEK AND WILL CONSIDER DATES FOR A MEETING. THIS SUBJECT COULD NOT BE DISCUSSED DURING DUBLIN SUMMIT BECAUSE OF PRESENCE OF NON-IEA MEMBER FRANCE.

5. GALLAGHER ADDED THAT, APART FROM THE QUESTION OF THE DATE FOR THE IEA MINISTERIAL, THERE IS LITTLE QUESTION THAT THE EC MEMBERS WILL PARTICIPATE. AS FOR THE IRISH, HE EXPECTS THAT EITHER FITZGERALD OR INDUSTRY MINISTER KEATING WOULD ATTEND.
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